

Feb. 1st 1943

Prof. Valentine
Bordentown
New Jersey

Dear Professor:

I know when you looked at this stationery and realized who this letter is from, you wondered what I could be writing about this time of the year. After all it is very early to be asking for the band opening day, (if there is an opening day this year). No it is not to secure the services of the band. I am asking you for even more this time.

I am sure you have read about the baseball and the various reactions of many groups, as to its importance in our American way of life. As things stand I feel that the authorities in Washington have shown in many ways, they would like to see the baseball continue. If it is for the best, I am ready to fall in line. If our Negro Baseball operates, as The Major Leagues are planning to do, we will have to make a lot of changes. One of the first ones is to arrange to train near home, so we will not have to ask for railroad transportation or gasoline to get to training camp. That is the reason for this letter to you.

Last year "The Eagles" trained at Virginia Union in Richmond Virginia. They had room and board at the college campus. Everything was fine. You can write to them for reference. This year we would like to train at Bordentown. I realize it may not be the most convenient program, but we all have to put ourselves out a lot now-a-days. If you could arrange to take the team for room and board for a period of about four weeks, about 16 or 18 men, it would be really grand. The white teams have been able to get the cooperation of every place they asked. I do hope we Negroes will be able to get together. Please let me hear from you, or phone me and reverse charges, Market 5-0555.

Very Truly Yours